

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, before I give my one minute, I just would like to publicly thank our colleague, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) for his trip to Sudan and calling attention to a tragic, tragic situation. I thank him.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, in the California elections, the people of California rejected a cynical attempt to stifle the voices of working families in America, to stifle the voices of concerned nonprofit organizations.

Proposition 226 was an effort by the Republican leadership and the Republican Party to lash out at working families and to deny members of unions the ability to participate in the political process in this country, a right that they are guaranteed under the Constitution. It was cynically dubbed the Paycheck Protection Act. It had nothing to do with protecting people's paychecks. It had everything to do with trying to get back at organized labor in this country for the very effective campaign they ran in the last national elections on behalf of President Clinton and on behalf of many Members of the Congress where they told the truth about what the Republican leadership and majority was trying to do in this House of Representatives in denying people the rights and fundamental basic ability to raise their family.

ON CHARACTER

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, in many foreign countries it is difficult to do business without a payoff or a bribe. Just slide some money across the hand and doors open. It happens in many countries that do not have high moral standards of right and wrong. But it is not acceptable in America. Not until now. It appears something has changed.

Our high moral standards driven by character and a strong sense of right and wrong now seem to have sunk to a new low of a mere political contribution and doors open. Just a few lucrative political donations from the Communist Chinese and a big U.S. corporation will change export policy and doors will open.

The administration has taken high-tech satellite export waivers from the Department of Defense and the State Department and given it to the Commerce Department, making it easier for doors to open. Now an American company may have exported high technical information that jeopardizes our security, our national security.

It may happen in other countries, but it should never happen here.

CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 226

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the voters of California for rejecting Proposition 226. Republican leaders in the House were supporting this initiative in order to silence the voices of American workers and America's working families. And by voting down Proposition 226, California voters stood up for their right to participate in the political process.

Right now, working families do not have enough say in our political process. In 1996, wealthy corporations and business representatives poured more than \$650 million into campaigns, 11 times what labor unions, the representatives of working Americans, were able to spend.

We need to pass genuine campaign finance reform that increases the participation of average working families and limits the role of wealthy special interests. We need less money in our political process. We need to restore Americans' faith in our political process. We need to pass meaningful campaign finance reform today.

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DIABETES

(Mr. CUMMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, diabetes is a disease of national impact. According to the American Diabetes Association, there are an estimated 15.7 million people who suffer from this disease. The frightening fact is that there are over 5 million people that have it and are unaware of it.

Medical technology has not yet discovered a way to prevent this disorder. Only treatment is available. It is known as the silent killer because it seldom gives any warning of its presence. Many people are unaware that they have diabetes until they suffer from one of its life-threatening complications, blindness, kidney disease, nerve disease, amputations, heart disease and stroke.

The African-American community is nearly twice as likely to suffer from this disorder that can cause the body to not produce enough insulin or not properly use it. Over 2.3 million African-Americans have been diagnosed and over half are unaware that they have this silent and deadly disorder.

I urge this Congress to reduce the number of Americans suffering from diabetes and increase funding for biomedical research.

TEA 21 RESTORATION ACT

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 3978) to restore provisions agreed to by the conferees to H.R. 2400, entitled the "Transportation Equity Act

for the 21st Century", but not included in the conference report to H.R. 2400, and for other purposes, and that the bill be considered as passed.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Pease). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, if I could, just to embellish a little bit on my reservation, the bill that passed Congress last week had a provision that had a major impact on southeastern Wisconsin. This was a provision that was not contained in the original House version of the bill nor was it contained in the bill when it passed the Senate. However, during the conference committee, there was an amendment added to the conference committee report. That amendment basically gives the Governor of the State of Wisconsin unilateral authority, from my perspective, as to how \$241 million should be spent for transportation projects in Wisconsin, money which was by agreement originally set aside for southeastern Wisconsin. The reason that we heard from the State and from others that this provision was in the bill was because of the concern that the State of Wisconsin would lose this \$241 million. It is my belief that at this point, that is no longer a danger. And so what I am going to propose to the chairman of the committee in just a moment or two is unanimous consent for an amendment which would return the language to what I perceive to be the original agreement between the parties. If I may, Mr. Speaker, the conference report language, section (n) Substitute Project, Section 1045 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 has several sections to it. My amendment would strike the second paragraph and would insert the following two paragraphs:

Paragraph 2. "Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subsection (c) of this section, upon the request of the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, submitted after consultation with appropriate local government officials by October 1, 2000, the Secretary may approve 1 or more substitute projects in lieu of the substitute project approved by the Secretary under paragraph (1) and subsection (c) of this section."

"(3) Funds available for 1 or more substitute projects under paragraph (2) shall be used for transportation priorities associated with the East-West Corridor Project in southeastern Wisconsin."

That would be the amendment that I am going to ask the gentleman for unanimous consent for. The reason I am doing this, Mr. Speaker, is that I believe that this is a fight, and it truly is a fight, in the State between State officials and local officials as to how this money should be spent. There was a delicate balance of power that had been achieved in the prior language that had been agreed to on a bipartisan